

REMARKS

Claims 1 and 3-20 remain pending in the present application. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-17 and 20 have been amended. Basis for the amendments can be found throughout the specification, claims and drawings as originally filed.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kamerman in view of Yoneda. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being anticipated by Kamerman. Claims 1, 7, 9, 10 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kamerman. Claims 11, 12, 13 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kamerman in view of Yoneda. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Independent Claims 1, 3, 7-9, 11, 13 and 17 have been amended to define that a base station determines whether there are multiple transmitting terminal stations where at least one of the transmitting terminal stations is a hidden transmitting terminal station. The base station notifies the hidden terminal to increase its signal transmitting power (or other characteristics). Thus, the hidden terminal is positively caught by the base station.

In Kamerman, et al., a network is formed with a base station (access point) 12 and terminal stations (network stations) 18-1, 18-2 with respective antennas 16, 20. A hidden terminal is determined in the terminal station 18-1, 18-2, and not in the base station 12. Thus, Kamerman, et al. clearly fails to disclose, teach or suggest the limitations now added to the independent claims.

In Yoneda, et al., each base station (master station) 11, 12, 13 for communications with terminal stations (slave stations) 17, 18, 19 is wire-connected to one another and constructed to avoid the use of the same channel thereby avoiding an occurrence of a hidden terminal. That is, the base station 11, 12, 13 does not have the construction now defined in the amended independent claims. Antennas 27a, 27b in Fig. 5 to which the Examiner refers are for transmitting and receiving, respectively, as opposed to a plurality of antennas 10a-10f for receiving as defined in the present invention. Thus, Yoneda, et al. also clearly fails to disclose, teach or suggest the limitations now added to the independent claims.

Thus, Applicants believe independent Claims 1, 3, 7-9, 11, 13 and 17, as amended, patentably distinguish over the art of record. Likewise, Claims 4-6, 10, 12, 15, 16 and 18-20, which ultimately depend from one of these independent claims, are also believed to patentably distinguish over the art of record. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Claim 14 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim. Claim 14 depended from Claim 7. Claim 14 has been amended to independent form to include the limitations of Claim 7 and is thus believed to be allowable.

SUBSEQUENT OFFICE ACTION

Applicants note that Claims 4-6, 15 and 16 were not indicated in the Office Action as being allowable nor was there any prior art that was cited against them. The only mention of these claims other than the summary sheet was that the allowability of Claim 15 was withdrawn. Thus, Applicants request that any future Office Action other than a Notice of Allowance / Allowability be made NON-FINAL.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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